

In the middle of cross examination of the complainant in a sensitive domestic violence case, (the defendant is charged with causing GBH), someone's mobile phone rings in the public gallery – the person concerned quickly rummages in their pocket and the ringing stops after a few seconds. What do you do?

- a) Nothing
- b) Fine the person a small amount for contempt of court
- c) Confiscate the phone
- d) Request that the owner makes sure the phone is turned off then continue (86% of candidates)**

You have to decide a point of admissibility relating to a challenge to identification evidence based upon the Police and Criminal Evidence Act and the Codes of Practice. How do you deliver your ruling?

- a) By simple announcement of the ruling
- b) By announcing the ruling and giving short, clear reasons (88% of candidates)**
- c) By announcing the ruling and stating that you will give reasons later if asked
- d) By giving a full analysis of each of the points made by the prosecution and the defence

The defendant is before you facing trial regarding an allegation that he has assaulted a female neighbour in the street. He has already interrupted from the dock during the complainant's evidence saying that she was "talking rubbish". Now, during her re-examination, he jumps to his feet in the dock and says "this prosecution is ludicrous and the prosecutor is an ass". What do you do?

- a) Send him down to the cells
- b) Send the jury out and give him a final warning saying that if there is any further interruption he will be excluded from the hearing (77% of candidates)**
- c) Send the jury out and tell him that he is in contempt of court and that you will deal with him for that later
- d) Adjourn for a period of time in order to let him cool down

You are presiding over a trial in which the defendant is a Muslim lady. She attends court in a full veil. The prosecution argue that the defendant should be required to remove the veil as the jury need to see her face in order to assess her credibility. What is your decision?

- a) Indicate to the defendant that she must remove the veil from her face only while giving her evidence but offer special measures (e.g. screens or TV link) in order to put her at ease (74% of candidates)**
- b) Direct that the defendant must appear throughout without any facial covering
- c) Allow the defendant to continue to wear a full veil throughout
- d) Call an Imam into court for advice, indicate to him that you cannot allow the defendant to give evidence unless her face is visible to the jury and seek his advice as to how to proceed

The mother and father are in person at the final hearing of the father's application for increased time with the children. The mother alleges that the father has been violent to her and request screens. The father objects to the application. He says that she has not raised this before and it is a tactic to undermine his application. Do you:

- a) Explain to the parties that you want them both to be able to give their best evidence and screens will not influence your assessment of the evidence and allow the request and continue with the hearing. (89% of candidates)**
- b) Adjourn the hearing for the parties to investigate whether they can obtain legal advice and representation
- c) Refuse the request and continue with the hearing
- d) Ask your usher to speak to the mother outside of court

The advocate for the mother repeatedly talks at some volume during the evidence and particularly when the witnesses are swearing the oath. She has made you aware that she has an infection which has led to some hearing loss, what should you do?

- a) You tell her to be quiet as it is difficult for you to hear the evidence and ask whether she can hear sufficiently to do her job
- b) You rise and send out a message with the usher telling her to keep the noise down
- c) You ask all parties to be quiet during the evidence given the importance of hearing it all and emphasise the importance of silence during the oath. (92% of candidates)**
- d) You ignore it as you do not want to offend her or cause difficulties with her client as you are anxious to keep the hearing on track.

Counsel for the mother has not put an essential aspect of her client's case to the father in a fact finding in relation to allegations of very serious sexual assaults. What, if anything, do you do/say?

- a) Do nothing as it is a matter for the mother and her counsel
- b) At the conclusion of the cross examination intervene and put the allegations to the father
- c) Invite counsel to consider the allegations that have not been put and whether these continue to form part of her client's case and if so suggest that they need to be put to the father (93% of candidates)**

You are travelling to court by train and you see counsel who is appearing before you. This is someone you know reasonably well professionally, do you:

- a) Find a seat together so you can catch up
- b) Say hello and sit somewhere else (91% of candidates)**
- c) Ignore counsel to ensure no suggestion of bias